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Title:Need to provide benefits to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, irrespective of their place of residence.

SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU (TIRUNELVELI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to raise an important issue here.

Sir, the members belonging to the Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Classes Communities of Tamil Nadu as also the other Southern States have migrated to Delhi. For more than five decades, they have been permanently living here and they have become the domiciles of Delhi. They are exercising their basic rights such as voting in the Municipal, Panchayat and the Parliamentary Elections but, at the same time, they are denied the privilege of contesting the above elections. They cease the privilege of belonging to the Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Classes communities once they cross the borders of the State of their origin. In spite of their being the law-abiding citizens and domiciles of the migrated State for more than five decades, the basic rights are denied and they are compelled to lose their distinct identity.

The benefits of reservation as guaranteed by Artcile 16 (4) of our Constitution, which is a basic right enjoyed by the fellow Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe persons are not available to them as the State of Delhi does not provide reservation in educational institutes, Government appointments. Further, it has not issued caste certificates to these communities. Moreover, the caste certificates issued by the appropriate authorities of Tamil Nadu Government and the other Southern States are also not being accepted in Delhi.

It is a very important problem faced by the people who are living here. Even in Singapore, the people of Indian origin are living there. If they are living there, they have the right to contest elections but not in Delhi!

Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to bring forward a suitable legislation to amend the Constitution of India to ensure that the reservation meant for the Scheduled Caste, the Scheduled Tribe and the Other Backward Classes communities people is available to them even when they migrate to other States other than their place of birth.